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LETTER DATED 3 MARCH 2000 ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL BY THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF PORTUGAL TO THE UNITED NATIONS

I have the honour to draw to your attention the statement concerning the position of Archbishop Emmanuel Kataliko issued on 29 February 2000 by the Presidency of the European Union on behalf of the European Union (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would arrange for the text of this letter and its annex to be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) António MONTEIRO
Permanent Representative of
Portugal to the United Nations

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Annex

Statement concerning the position of Archbishop Emmanuel Kataliko issued on 29 February 2000 by the Presidency of the European Union on behalf of the European Union

The European Union has learned that, on 12 February 2000, upon returning from Kinshasa, Archbishop Emmanuel Kataliko was prevented from going back to the see of his archdiocese at Bukavu and banished to Butembo.

It voices its strongest concern at this infringement of Archbishop Kataliko's liberty and at the obstacles still being put in the way of his return to Bukavu.

It appeals to the Rassemblement congolais pour la démocratie (RCD) [Goma] rebel leaders, in accordance with their verbal undertaking, and to the Rwandan Government to do their utmost to ensure that Archbishop Emmanuel Kataliko can return to the see of his archdiocese in Bukavu in complete safety without delay, so that he can resume his pastoral work as both he and the population wish.

The Central and Eastern European countries associated with the European Union, the associated countries Cyprus, Malta and Turkey, and the European Free Trade Association countries members of the European Economic Area align themselves with this statement.